Reservation of SCs/STs in Recruitment of E.D.As and D.R.Ms.

*455. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation orders for SCs/ STs are being implemented in recruitment/appointment of Extra Departmental Agents and Daily Rated Mazdoors by his Ministry;

(b) what are the terms and conditions for recruitment of E.D.As. and Daily Rated Mazdoors; and

(c) what is the total number of E.D.As and Daily Rated Mazdoors recruited during the last three years i.e. 1989, 1990 and 1991, separately, and what is the number of SCs / STs therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Subject to fulfilment of the basic eligibility criteria, SC and ST candidates are given preference over general category candidates for appointment as Extra departmental Postal agents. As regards daily rated mazdoors, while there is no reservation policy in view of the casual nature of their recruitment, here to preferential treatment is given to SC/ST candidates.

(b) A statement is laid on the table of the House, (see below)

(c) *Department of Posts:* The required information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Department of Telecommunications: NIL as there is a ban on engagement of daily rated mazdoors in establishments other than project circles since March 1985 and in project circles since June 1988.

(i) Terms and Conditions for recruitment of ED As

The broad terms and conditions in force at present are as indicated below:

1. Age: Should be between 18 and 65 years.

2. Educational Qualifications:

(a) ED Sub Post-masters/ED Branch Post-master/ED Delivery Agants	Vill Std. (Matriculation or equivalent may be preferred)
(b) ED Stamp Vendors	VI Std. (Vill Std. may be preferred)
(c) All other categories of EDAs	Should have sufficient working knowledge of the regional language and simple arithmentic so as to be able to discharge their duties satisfactorily. ED Messengers in addition are also required to possess enough working knowlege of.English.

3. Income and ownership of property: For appointment as EDBPM/ EDSPM, candidates must have other means of livelihood and must be able to offer space to serve as agency premises for postal operations to serve as small postal office with provision for P.CO.

4. Residence: For appointment as EDBPM/EDSPM, permanent residence in post village is a must. For appointment as ED Mail carriers and Runners, candidates should be permanent residents of the delivery jurisdiction of the post office. For other categories of EDAs, they should reside in or near the place of their duties.

NOTE:— Detailed service conditions of the Extra-Departmental Agents are contained in the EDAs (Conduct & Service) Rules, 1964.

(ii) *Terms and Conditions for recruitment of Daily Rated Mazdoors/Casual Labourers*

They are engaged in work which is of seasonal, intermittant or casual nature for which creation of regular posts is not justified. For engaging casual labourers, nominations nave to be called for from the employment exchange. The nominees

should also be those who fulfil the age and other conditions of recruitment to regular group 'D' posts. At present there is a ban on recruitment of casual labourers/Daily Rated Mazdoors for work of regular nature.

Setting Up of an Airport of Salem

*456. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Salem town will have an airport in the near future since it is an important industrial town; and

(b) if not, whether Government would examine this proposal and decide its viability?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

रुग्ण उद्योगों को कम ब्याज दर पर ऋण देना

*457. सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा:
श्री रणजीत सिंह:

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने देश में रुग्ण उद्योगों के पुनर्वास के लिये उन्हें कम ब्याज दर पर ऋण देने का निर्णय किया है, और यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि कुछ हद तक ब्याज की बढ़ी हुई दर उद्योगों की रुग्णता के लिए उत्तरदायी है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा कम ब्याज दर पर ऋण देने की नीति को न अपनाये जाने के क्या कारण हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दलबीर सिंह): (क) जी, हां। संभावित रूप से अर्थक्षम रुग्ण या कमजोर औद्योगिक इकाइयों के पुनः पुनरुद्धार के लिए तैयार किए गए पैकेज के एक भाग के रूप में बैंकों द्वारा दी गई विभिन्न सुविधाओं के आधार पर रुग्ण और कमजोर औद्योगिक इकाइयों को राहत और रियायतें मंजूर करने हेतु भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने कुछ वृहत पैरामीटर निर्धारित किए हैं। इन पैरामीटरों में कार्यशील पूंजी अग्रिमों, वर्तमान सावधि ऋणों निधिक ब्याज, सावधि ऋणों, कार्यशील पूंजी सावधि ऋणों और रुग्ण या कमजोर औद्योगिक इकाइयों के पुनरुद्धार के नए सावधि ऋणों पर रियायती ब्याज दरें शामिल हैं।

(ख) और (ग) यद्यपि, इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं है कि उच्च ब्याज दरें ऋण परिशोधन के कार्य में अधिक समस्यायें खड़ी करती हैं और कुछ औद्योगिक इकाईयों में रुग्णता ला सकती हैं लेकिन वर्तमान ब्याज दर ढांचा चालू मुद्रास्फीति दर के प्रतिबिम्ब का एक भाग है। जैसे ही मुद्रास्फीतिकारी दबाव कम होगा यह आशा की जाती है कि ब्याज दरें कम हो जाएंगी।

2 मार्च, 1992 से 2 लाख रूपए से अधिक की ऋण सीमाओं पर ऋण दर को 20 प्रतिशत (न्यूनतम) से एक प्रतिशत बिन्दु कम करके 19 प्रतिशत (न्यूनतम) कर दिया गया है और बैंकों से पहले ही कह दिया गया है कि वे इस श्रेणी के सभी ऋणकर्ताओं के लिए दरों को 2 मार्च, 1992 से पहले ऐसे ऋणकर्ताओं से वसूल की गई दरों की तुलना में एक प्रतिशत न्यूनतम बिन्दु तक कम करें।

Special Attention to coal Bearing States for Power Generation

*458 SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minster of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to refer to answers to the Unstarred Question 1864 and Starred Question 376 given in the Rajya Sabha on 10th and 17th December, 1991, respectively, and state whether Government propose to give special attention to states like Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa which have immense coal resources and which can be used to generate large quantities of electricity and thereby reduce the shortage in power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): Power projects are undertaken based on availability of fuel such as coal, gas etc. as also the need to balance the requirement of power at load centres. In accordance with the decision of the National Development Council to set up 31,000 MW of power projects during the 8th Five Year Plan, a statement is